

## Welcome to the Business Trends and Outlook Survey

The U.S. Census Bureau is requesting your assistance to produce important data on current economic conditions, as well the impact on our nation's economy when natural disasters or other emergencies occur.

Your response is especially important right now as it helps policy makers, government officials, and businesses like yours understand these effects. Please complete this short 26 question survey; it will take approximately 6 minutes.

For the completion of this survey, please provide data for: [Name of company]

1. Is XX-XXXXXXX the Employer Identification Number (EIN) used on this business's latest Internal Revenue Service Form 941, Employer's Federal Quarterly Tax Return?

- Yes
- No

If no, please provide EIN:

2. Overall, how would you describe this business's current performance?

- Excellent
- Above average
- Average
- Below average
- Poor

3. Between MMMMM DD – MMMMM DD, how did this business's operating revenues/sales/receipts change?

- Increased
- Decreased
- No change

4. Between MMMMM DD – MMMMM DD, how did this business's number of paid employees change?

- Increased
- Decreased
- No change

5. Between MMMMM DD – MMMMM DD, how did the total number of hours worked by this business's paid employees change?

- Increased
- Decreased
- No change

6. Between MMMMM DD – MMMMM DD, did this business have difficulties hiring paid employees?
- Yes
  - No
  - Not applicable
7. Between MMMMM DD – MMMMM DD, did this business do any of the following?  
Select all that apply:
- Open a new location
  - Open a previously closed location
  - Temporarily close a location
  - Permanently close a location
  - None of the above
8. Between MMMMM DD – MMMMM DD, how did the time it takes for this business to receive deliveries from suppliers change?
- Increased
  - Decreased
  - No change
9. Between MMMMM DD – MMMMM DD, did this business have any of the following?  
Select all that apply:
- Domestic supplier delays
  - Foreign supplier delays
  - Difficulty locating alternative domestic suppliers
  - Difficulty locating alternative foreign suppliers
  - Production delays at this business
  - Delays in delivery/shipping to customers
  - None of the above
10. Between MMMMM DD – MMMMM DD, how did demand for this business's goods or services change?
- Increased
  - Decreased
  - No change
11. Between MMMMM DD – MMMMM DD, how did the prices this business charges for its own goods or services change?
- Increased
  - Decreased
  - No change
12. Between MMMMM DD – MMMMM DD, how did the prices this business pays for goods or services change?
- Increased

- Decreased
  - No change
13. Between MMMMM DD – MMMMM DD, how has this business's use of online platforms to offer goods or services changed?
- Increased
  - Decreased
  - No change
  - Not applicable
14. Six months from now, how do you think you will describe this business's performance?
- Excellent
  - Above average
  - Average
  - Below average
  - Poor
15. Six months from now, how do you think this business's number of paid employees will have changed?
- Increased
  - Decreased
  - No change
16. Six months from now, how do you think the total number of hours worked by this business's paid employees will have changed?
- Increased
  - Decreased
  - No change
17. Six months from now, do you think this business will have difficulties hiring paid employees?
- Yes
  - No
  - Not applicable
18. Six months from now, how do you think the time it takes for this business to receive deliveries from suppliers will have changed?
- Increased
  - Decreased
  - No change
19. Six months from now, how do you think demand for this business's goods or services will have changed?
- Increased
  - Decreased
  - No change

20. Six months from now, how do you think the prices this business charges for its own goods or services will have changed?
- Increased
  - Decreased
  - No change
21. Six months from now, how do you think the prices this business pays for goods or services will have changed?
- Increased
  - Decreased
  - No change
22. Six months from now, how do you think this business's use of online platforms to offer goods or services will have changed?
- Increased
  - Decreased
  - No change
  - Not applicable
23. During the next six months, do you think this business will do any of the following?  
Select all that apply:
- Open a new location
  - Open a previously closed location
  - Temporarily close a location
  - Permanently close a location
  - None of the above
24. What is the longest time period over which you believe you can predict this business's performance?
- 1 month or less
  - 2-3 months
  - 4-6 months
  - 7-12 months
  - More than 12 months
25. Would you like to provide any information about your responses to these questions or this business?  
Remarks (500 characters)

26. For future Business Trends and Outlook Survey requests, please provide your preferred email address.

This collection has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). The eight-digit OMB approval number is 0607-1022 and appears in the lower left corner of each reporting screen. Without this approval, we could not conduct this survey.

### **Authority and Confidentiality**

Title 13, United States Code, Sections 131 and 182, authorizes the U.S. Census Bureau to conduct this collection and to request your voluntary assistance. The Census Bureau is required by Section 9 of the same law to keep your information confidential and use your responses only to produce statistics. The Census Bureau is not permitted to publicly release your responses in a way that could identify your business, organization, or institution. Per the Federal Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015, your data are protected from cybersecurity risks through screening of the systems that transmit your data.

### **Burden Estimate Statement**

We estimate the Business Trends and Outlook Survey will take an average of 6 minutes to complete. Factors such as company size, complexity and activity will affect your actual time to complete the survey. This estimate includes the time to review instructions, search existing data sources, gather and maintain the data needed, and complete and review the survey.

You may email comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: [econ.btos@census.gov](mailto:econ.btos@census.gov). Be sure to use "EID Survey Comments 0607-1022" as the subject.